

Everyday is special ... because you are.

Dayton, Oregon
March 19th

Hello there!

How are you two this week? I hope it's as nice there as it is here today! It is just lovely-somewhere in the 60⁴s, I'm sure-and it was beautiful yesterday too-Spring has at last come, I hope! I'm working all day today (wouldnt you know it) but had yesterday afternoon to enjoy the day. I pruned the roses and developed a sore elbow from it! Guess I'm really out of condition elbow-wise-the grapes need pruning too but I shall not tackle that job! Maybe dad will find the time-although I doubt it. He's so busy right now tearing off the back section of the barn out at the farm-Merle and Gene are helping him and they're making good progress-having started yesterday morning. The back side was sort of a lean-to roof hooked onto the rest of the structure and he will replace it with another sloping roof about 8 feet or nine feet high and will use it as a machine shed-thereby removing the need for that shed along the south side of the barnyard-it's quite an eyesore to me so I'll be glad to see it gone someday-then sometime later he will tear off the south end of the barn which is also a shed roofed area built out from the main barn-(where the horses and cows used to be) Egad! I can't type for sour apples anymore-my thoughts race ahead and my fingers make a mess! Anyway, later on when the renovation project is complete he will paint the barn that soft dark orangey red-

The prchard will soon be in blossom-especially with these spring-like days-Have the cherry trees started blooming in Washington yet? They are so lovely! I can imagine them along the tidal basin on the Potomac -in front of the Jefferson Monument, etc. My flowering plum tree is really pretty now and the camellia finally is blooming-still have violets and lots of daffodils-spring is really late this year, though-too much rain and coolish weather! This week is spring vacation for the kiddies and everywhere you see bikes with happy little ones peddling here and there-mothers are happy too, I'm sure-with the nice weather which lets them be outside and out from under-foot!

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Today is the start of the basketball tournament in Eugene- the AA schools play there now instead of in Coos Bay- Dayton won in our league and have their first game this afternoon at 3:00- so are still playing, probably, since it's a little after 4:00- I sure hope they can win their first one, at least. It's with Taft- The annual migration of parents and fans took place this morning- made me think of those days when we made quite regular trips to Coos Bay-

Ken and Debbie were out Sunday and Francie is home now so we celebrated Ken's birthday and her homecoming together- that was a pretty good day too- they're both fine- Debbie is taking swimming lessons now and they swim twice a week- Ken is pretty proud of her and we are too, of course- She was afraid of the water and didn't enjoy his type of recreation too much, you may recall- So now maybe she will.

Say, wouldn't it be nice if Jim would be transferred to Hawaii for a year? You'd love it and maybe some of us could come to visit you! Ha. Francie hopes to go over there in the next year or so, I know. Have you thought anymore of moving closer to Jim's work? I thought he took the bus but maybe not anymore, eh? How is the gasoline situation now? Ours is getting better! Wright & Groth had the green flag out when I came back to work at noon! An unheard of happening in the past three or more months! Usually they have pumped gas for an hour or less in the morning only- I wonder if we can go back to contemplating a nice ride in the country again ?? Or at least go to visit all the other Square Dance Clubs that we want too-

I'll have to "stock up on my dancing" because I expect to have surgery on both my feet as soon as we hire another clerk here (which will be by March 30th) and get her trained so that she can be left in charge- My bunions are just too much pain and trouble to keep putting up with! I saw a doctor in Tigard about a week ago who is a specialist in podiatry and he Xrayed my feet and told me just what he'd have to do and assured me that it would help a lot- He showed me Xrays of another woman's foot before and after surgery (which compared to my problem) and it surely did look much better- I will be hospitalized close to a week in a new hospital in Tualatin and able (?) to walk on the 5th or 6th day on wooden soled clogs with adjustable sides to fit over the little casts I';; have on my feet for a few days- Doesn't that sound ~~###~~ jolly?? Anyway, it's something I shall have to put up with- Out of space and time- Write soon and tell us all the news-

Lots of love, Mom + Dad